

Jim-Robert phoned me today to wish me a good year and to chat. You do not know him. He seems to have been offered his old job back, under better conditions, and his pregnant wife is now forecast for 2/26 rather than 3/26. We chatted for a while. He has not heard of Sylvia since she was hospitalized, which means that Jerry has not mentioned her; and he says that Jerry says that, now that his magnum opus has been printed, he will retire from the wars for at least two years, laying his files aside or putting them away. I asked him if Jerry has finished typing the index to the part of my foundations file he had. Robert has no knowledge. So, I asked Robert, when he speaks to Jerry again, to try and bring two things to pass: that Jerry distribute the index if he has typed it or let Howard have the cards if he has not; and to get Jerry to return to me whatever else of mine he has (illustrated by the case of the pictures you needed for the Ray habeas corpus petition). He will, but I am not hopeful that Jerry will listen to Robert. There is a better, if still not really good, chance that he'll listen to you. Jerry did not have my entire foundations file, and I have no idea of what he may have that, like these pictures, may be needed in the future. His retirement I welcome, but not confiscation. Howard or Hoard and I will be using the entire file at some point. Howard will do, or has accepted my suggestion that he do a thesis and a book based on it or perhaps we will work on one together in the future. There is at least as much more than Jerry had that was stored. More than this, there is the thesis I was able to encourage a man now a history professor to do on the foreign-policy aspects, for which I was able to open some then-living sources for him, and some archives. So, on this alone, there is much more than what Jerry knows about and of potential usefulness. However, any carding he has done for an index should not be ~~hidden~~ buried with his disappointments, not matter how he masks them to himself. If the chance comes, please use some of your persuasiveness. If I say day, he'd say night at high noon. HW 1/1/73